कुल 24,648 भूतपूर्व सैनिक पंजीकृत किए गए थे। केन्द्र सरकार ने भूतपूर्व सैनिकों के पुनर्वास के लिए विभिन्न कार्य किए हैं। भूतपूर्व सैनिकों के पुनर्वास के लिए केन्द्रीय योजनाएं/कार्यक्रम, जो मध्य प्रदेश सहित सभी राज्यों में लागू हैं, इस प्रकार हैं:—

(1) केन्द्र सरकार ने भूतपूर्व सैनिकों के लिए समूह "ग" के 10% पद और समूह "घ" के 20% पद आरक्षित किए हैं। अर्द्ध सैन्य बलों में सहायक कमांडेंटों के दस प्रतिशत पद भी भूतपूर्व सैनिकों के लिए आरक्षित हैं।

(2) केन्द्र सरकार के सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के उपक्रम और राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक समूह "ग" पदों में 14.5% और समूह "घ" पदों में 24.5% आरक्षण प्रदान करते हैं।

(3) भूतपूर्व सैनिकों को लघु उद्योग, सेवा उद्योग, होटल, नर्सिंग होम, पर्यटन परियोजनाएं, कृषि पर आधारित उद्योग, खादी एवं ग्रामोद्योग आदि स्थापित करने के लिए स्व-रोजगार योजनाओं (सेमफेक्स) के तहत ऋण/वित्तीय सहायता मुहैया करवाई जा रही है।

(4) भूतपूर्व सैनिकों ने कोल इंडिया लिमिटेड तथा इसकी सहायक कंपनियों के तत्वावधान में कोयले के परिवहन के लिए परिवहन कंपनियां भी स्थापित की हैं। इस समय, ये कंपनियां बिहार, उड़ीसा, मंध्य प्रदेश, आन्ध्र प्रदेश और महाराष्ट्र के कोयला-खानों में कार्य कर रही हैं।

(5) सरकार ने मरणोपरांत वीरता पुरस्कार विजेताओं की विधवाओं/आश्रितों, युद्ध में वीरगति प्राप्त सैनिकों की विधवाओं, युद्ध में निशक्त हुए सैनिकों और शांतिकाल के दौरान 50% या उससे अधिक निशक्त हुए कार्मिकों के लिए 7.5% तेल उत्पाद एजेंसियों अर्थात् एल पी जी, मिट्टी के तेल की एजेंसियां और पेट्रोल पम्प आरक्षित किए हैं।

(6) कैंटीन स्टोर विभाग की सामान-सूची की कम प्रौद्योगिकी वाली मदों की 15% मदें भूतपूर्व सैनिक उद्यमियों के लिए आरक्षित हैं। रक्षा मंत्रालय ने भी रक्षा क्रय कार्यक्रमों के अंतर्गत भूतपूर्व सैनिकों द्वारा निर्मित कम प्रौद्योगिकी वाली 10% मदें आरक्षित की हैं।

(7) भूतपूर्व सैनिक, यू टी आई एजेंसियों तथा श्रेणी-5 बी के अधिशेष वाहनों के आबंटन के लिए भी पात्र हैं।

2. मध्य प्रदेश सरकार भी भूतपूर्व सैनिकों के लिए समूह "ग" पदों में 9% तथा समूह "घ" पदों में 14% आरक्षण प्रदान कर रही है।

(ख) और (ग) वर्ष 1996 के दौरान मध्य प्रदेश के भूतपूर्व सैनिकों से रक्षा मंत्रालय में 54 याचिकाएं/अभ्यावेदन प्राप्त हुए थे तथा समुचित समाधान के लिए संबंधित विभागों को भेज दिए गए थे।

Decision to shelve the Missile Development Programme

1226. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH:
SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to shelve the missile development plan for the present and to resume it if the security situation warrants it; if so, the details of the decision taken; and

(b) the basis on which Government reached conclusion that India is not facing any threat to its security?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Intrusion by Pakistan into Indian Waters

1227. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan is intruding into Indian waters in Arabian Sea; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b) Government have seen reports regarding Pakistan's notification specifying 'baselines' to measure Pakistan's territorial waters, the contiguous zone, the EEZ and continental shelf in the Arabian Sea.

Government have conveyed to Pakistan that while they reserve the right to seek

suitable revision of the 'baselines' as notified by Pakistan insofar as they impinge upon India's sovereign jurisdiction. Government unequivocally reject as unacceptable the coordinate point (K) 23 33.90N ... 68 07.80E referred to in the notification as it encroaches upon the territorial waters of India which are within its sovereign jurisdiction.

Indo-Israel Agreement

1228. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the specific aspects of mutual cooperation with Israel were discussed during the recent visit of the President of Israel; and

(b) the details of the agreements and memoranda of understanding if any, signed with Israel during the visit?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Discussion with Israel during the recent visit of the President of Israel covered the entire gamut of the bilateral cooperation. The specific aspect included, amongst others, areas of agriculture, science & technology, research & development, human resource development, trade, education and culture.

(b) (i) Agreement on Technical Cooperation between the Governments of India and Israel, for promotion of their mutual technical cooperation, including by exchange of experts and provision of training opportunities.

(ii) Memorandum of Intent between the two Governments, for a joint high-tech agricultural demonstration cooperation project.

(iii) Umbrella Agreement on the Development of Cooperation in the field of Industrial and Technological Research and Development, between the two Governments, to identify and facilitate the establishment of joint industrial research and development projects in the fields of industrial research and technological development.

(iv) Programme for Cultural and Educational Cooperation between the two Governments, containing the agreement for the programme of exchanges in these areas for the years 1997-99.

Acquisition of Missiles and Weapons by Pakistan

1229. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan having acquired missiles and sophisticated weapons, including pilotless remote controlled surveillance planes from USA, China and elsewhere has started a campaign against India alleging deployment of Pakistan specific Prithvi Missiles; and

(b) the precise protestations made by Pakistan during the last four months; and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b) The acquisition and induction of weapon systems by Pakistan is monitored and assessed by the Government. Government are also aware of public statements made by Pakistani leaders and the Official Spokesman of the Pakistan Foreign Office which *inter-alia* states that the Prithvi missile "threatened a ballistic missile arms race in South Asia and posed a threat to peace in the region" and that "the venture was aimed specifically against Pakistan". Government have consistently stated that the missiles being developed under the Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGDMP) including the Prithvi missile, are intended to enable India to cope with the situation in our neighbourhood in the light of our own assessments.